



ALIAMANU/ SALT LAKE/ FOSTER VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 18

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2006

ALIAMANU MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Grant Tanimoto called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with a quorum present. He welcomed everyone to the Aliamanu/Salt Lake/Foster Village Neighborhood Board No. 18 meeting and mentioned that the Board tries to start on time and end by 9:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Grant Tanimoto, Larry Baird, Minnie Brazell, Steve Glanstein, Lorene Godfrey, Len Pepper, Mark Taylor and David Yomes.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Richard Larson (excused).

GUESTS: Michelle R. Hill (Deputy Director, Department of Health, Governor Linda Lingle's representative); Representative Glenn Wakai, Victoria Lynch (Representative Lynn Finnegan's Office staff), Dana Takahara-Dias (Deputy Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, Mayor Mufi Hannemann's representative), Dennis Galolo (Councilmember Romy Cachola's Office staff), Lt. Lester Hite (Honolulu Police Department- Kalihi); Lt. Keith Lima, Lt. Grant Arakawa and Sgt. Clayton Chung (Honolulu Police Department- Pearl City); Captain Drake (Honolulu Fire Department), Thomas J. Strout (Board of Water Supply), Pat Lee (Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project (HHCTCP)), Principal Robert Stevens (Radford High School), Principal Darrel Galera (Moanalua High School), Jim Waters, Roger Yang, Nick Thelen, Lynda and Janet Takamoto, Howard Shima, Joe Shimabukuro (Ala Hapuu Neighborhood Watch), Steven Y. Onoue (MVCA), Ann Butay, Suzette Adversalo, Jere F. Choo, and K. Russell Ho (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)- No representative present.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD)(continued)- Lt. Keith Lima, Pearl City Station, introduced Lt. Grant Arakawa and Sgt. Clayton Chung, distributed his report and highlighted the following:

1. The monthly statistics for February 2006/March 2006/April 2006 for Beat 384 (Foster Village Neighborhood Security Watch) for the highlighted offenses were: auto thefts- 7/9/4, auto theft recoveries- 10/9/2, burglaries- 5/2/4, criminal property damage cases- 6/4/3 and unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV)- 7/11/7. For February 2006/March 2006/April 2006, there were 387/415/361 calls for Beat 384 (Foster Village) of the 6,684/7,054/6,746 calls for District 3 (Kunia/Pearl City/Foster Village) or 5.79 percent/5.88 percent/5.35 percent of calls.

The report also lists the date, time and location of 4 burglaries, 3 motor vehicle thefts, 2 auto theft recoveries and 6 UEMV.

2. Last week Monday in Foster Village at 1:30 a.m., a couple was watching a car for a friend and noticed two people were sitting inside. After the man approached the car, the two suspects drove off. One and one-half hours later they were arrested in Waianae. When Honolulu Police Department (HPD) gets a report from citizens, they broadcast island-wide.
3. When Board member Minnie Brazell asked about the penalties for graffiti, Lt. Lima explained that there are four degrees of criminal property damage for graffiti and different levels of fines and punishment. Although HPD and the Prosecutor's Office ask for the maximum penalty, the courts rule differently. A petty misdemeanor is under \$500 estimated damages, a misdemeanor is from \$500 to \$1,500 estimated damages and over \$1500 is a felony. The Legislature can change the laws to have stiffer penalties or mandatory sentencing. When Board member Steve Glanstein asked about how they determine the amount of damage and the various classifications, Lt. Lima replied that the amount of damage is determined by the HPD and the Prosecutor's Office and is not based on the hiring of a licensed contractor

to paint over the graffiti. Lt. Lima mentioned that graffiti seems to be cyclical. There was a lot about a year ago and died down, but it is re-appearing again.

Chair Tanimoto thanked Lt. Lima.

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)- (7:12 p.m.) Captain Drake, Moanalua Station, highlighted the following:

1. For Ladder 30 and Engine 30, there were 12 fires, 49 medical and 21 other for a total of 82 calls for service. For Engine 30, there were 11 fire calls in trashcans by bus stops.
2. Fire Safety Tip- Prepare a fire escape plan. Map out your escape routes with at least two ways out of each room. Designate a location outside of the house where everyone can meet. Know where the closest phone is located to call 9-1-1.

Questions, answers and comments followed.

Vice Chair Len Pepper mentioned that Councilmember Romy Cachola's Office staff had reported that the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) had inspected the Opticom (the electronic device, which uses radio signals to turn the traffic lights "green" for emergency vehicles) was working for the Emergency Medical Services (EMS), but not the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The one at the intersection of Salt Lake Boulevard and Bouganville Drive and the ones in the Salt Lake area work, but a few don't work along Nimitz Highway, which may be under State jurisdiction. Follow up was requested.

Chair Tanimoto thanked Captain Drake.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD)- Lt. Lester Hite, Kalihi Station, distributed a written report and highlighted that the monthly statistics for April 2006 for Kalihi-District 5 were 63 arguments, 12 assaults, 9 burglaries, 2 drugs/narcotics cases, DUI- 10, family offenses- 7, harassments- 8, liquor law- 0, miscellaneous public cases- 48, miscellaneous service calls- 146, motor vehicle thefts- 17, motor vehicle collisions- 103, nuisance complaints- 32, parking violations- 98, property damage cases- 21, robberies- 3, sex offenses- 1, suspicious circumstances- 55, thefts- 43, unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMV)- 25 and towed vehicles- 56 for a total of 759 offenses for district beats 550, 551, 552 and 554.

Questions, answers and comments followed.

1. Resident Ann Butay (from last month) reported that for three weeks, the truck did not move, but now, the truck and boat are gone. She also reported that there were different people in a white van in front of 1084 Maluna Street.
2. Resident Thomas Strout mentioned an incident Tuesday night in front of the Tropicana apartments.
3. Resident Howard Shima asked about the recent graffiti arrests. Lt. Hite confirmed that three vandals were arrested. The punishment is determined by the cost of damage, not cost of labor. Legislators are discussing sentencing for Criminal Property Damage and they could change graffiti to a misdemeanor instead of a petty misdemeanor and if convicted of three graffiti crimes in five years, the violators could face imprisonment for a felony. Board member David Yomes mentioned that the City could also pass stiffer penalties.
4. Board member David Yomes thanked Lt. Hite for getting information to the Neighborhood Board. Lt. Hite mentioned that he would be re-assigned to Internal Affairs on a special assignment.

Chair Tanimoto and the Board thanked Lt. Hite for his service to the Board and invited him to remain in contact.

PUBLIC SAFETY CONCERNS (from the public)-

There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 13, 2006 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: The following corrections were made to the March 9, 2006 regular meeting minutes-

Page 1, under **GUESTS**, add, "and Officer Jason Boquer-Wintjen"

Page 4, 4., it should read, "Someone showed a picture, taken on March 17, at Maluna Street and Wanaka Street of a leaning telephone pole."

Page 5, at the top, it should read, "Vice Chair Pepper mentioned needs on Kauai, as an example of more pressing needs, and that he opposed the motion."

Page 5, in the middle, it should read, "Vice Chair Pepper mentioned that the Board supports a route along Salt Lake area with a spur to the airport. Board member Taylor mentioned that early on the Camp Catlin Drive alignment (U.S. Navy property) was eliminated and should not have been because it is the only alignment that would serve both the airport and Salt Lake."

Page 5, in the middle, it should read, "**Board member Taylor moved and Vice Chair Pepper seconded that the Aliamanu/Salt Lake/Foster Village Neighborhood Board No. 18 supports the alignment of the proposed "rail" system through Salt Lake Boulevard and continued consideration of the Camp Catlin Drive alignment and to convey this to the Mayor Mufi Hannemann and the City Council. The motion carried unanimously, 7-0-0.**"

Page 6, at the bottom, it should read, "1. The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has an open position for Park Director at Salt Lake District Park."

The approval of the April 13, 2006 Regular Meeting minutes was deferred to the next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBERS

There were none.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Relations- Committee Chair Minnie Brazell had no report.

Planning and Zoning – Chair Tanimoto reported that Committee Chair Richard Larson had an "excused" absence.

Traffic and Transportation- Committee Chair Larry Baird had no report.

Parks- Committee Chair Lorene Godfrey report that the Salt Lake District Park will be starting summer registration for the swimming pool. She distributed a flyer that listed the various classes, dates and times. Vice Chair Pepper mentioned that they have classes from tots to seniors.

Environment- Committee Chair Steve Glanstein reported that he and resident Howard Shima did one graffiti painting on Salt Lake Boulevard from Ala Napunani Street to Ala Lilikoi Street (the shopping center with the Safeway). He had some concerns for the Mayor's representative about trimming the vines and fixing the sprinkler system. He also had questions about calling a committee meeting, like where, when and how. Looking at the Neighborhood Plan and the "Sunshine Law," he learned only that the meeting's agenda had to properly noticed. Chair Tanimoto mentioned that the Mayor's representative Takahara-Dias would report shortly. Chair Tanimoto received an e-mail, which he forwarded to Committee Chair Glanstein. A resident at Century West apartments, is part of a group called the Phoenix J.C.s, who would volunteer to help with painting over graffiti. Also, he got some information from a police officer from the HPD Graffiti Task Force. He reported that there is side street, where there is a wall mural and the people proud of the mural on private property.

Education- Committee Chair Taylor had no report, but mentioned that the Radford High School and Moanalua High School principals would speak later.

Public Safety- Committee Chair David Yomes read his written report, as follows-

"Aliamanu/Salt Lake/Foster Village Neighborhood Board No. 18

Public Safety Report:

I was assigned by Board Chairman Grant Tanimoto to follow-up on several residents' concerns which were voiced at our April 13, 2006 meeting.

1. **Utility pole tilted, possible hazard:** Community requested the Board to check on a utility pole at Maluna Street/Wanaka Street. This pole was tilted and it appeared to be a danger to area residents. I inspected the utility pole at this location and it was, in fact, tilted and appeared to be termite-eaten. This is a wooden utility pole belonging to Hawaiian Electric identified as pole #71-227(10), located on the ewa/makai corner of Maluna Street/Wanaka Street.

I notified Hawaiian Electric Company to send out an inspector to look at this particular pole. Per Michael Ho (ph. # 543-7785), an inspector was sent out and determined that this pole had termite damage. There was still a two-inch shell left and was not an immediate hazard. Mr. Ho assured this writer that this pole will be replaced within 30 days. Good news for area residents.

2. **Truck/boat parking complaint:** Community requested the Board follow-up on a parking complaint at 1084 Maluna Street. Citizen provided a photograph of the violation. They reported that a large panel truck with no license plates, and attached to a boat, was parked there for months without being moved. Citizens related that the police was called a number of times and they issued citations, but the truck and boat remained.

I went out and inspected this truck and boat. They were located just before the driveway of 1084 Maluna Street, ewa-side of roadway, facing the makai direction on Maluna Street. This truck appeared to be a hazard for persons exiting the driveway of 1084 Maluna Street. I informed HPD Lt. Lester Hite of the complaint. He assigned officers to investigate. Police officers from the day and night shifts investigated and located the owner. According to the police, the owner, at first, was uncooperative, but they managed to talk with him to move the truck and boat or pay the towing charges. On April 24, 2006 the truck and boat were removed from this location. Good job by the police to help out the area residents on this street.

David Yomes
Public Safety Committee NB #18"

Committee Chair Yomes added that he followed up on last month's concerns about the City towing away abandoned vehicles with expired registrations and/or safety checks. Last month, he had reported that the City did not have storage space, but he also found out that the towing company and the City have to wait until the present contract expired before they could add in the new requirements. The process is still the same for towing an abandoned vehicle. The HPD marks an abandoned vehicle and if it is not moved in 24 hours, they issue a citation and report it to the City's abandoned vehicles department, which contracts with the towing company.

Chair Tanimoto commended Committee Chair Yomes on his report.

Questions, answers and comments followed.

1. A resident asked about the red curb for a bus stop on Ala Ilima Street. Committee Chair Yomes noticed that the City was painting the curbs red, which is supposed to be 95 feet before the bus stop and 55 feet after. He suggested that residents call 9-1-1 to report parking violations.
2. A resident mentioned that the traffic lights were not synchronized on Salt Lake Boulevard, when turning left from Arizona Memorial. Chair Tanimoto mentioned that the Board and the Mayor's representative Takahara-Dias had looked at this a few months ago. It may be a "drivers' problem" instead of a "light problem."

3. Concerning Maluna Street/Wanaka Street, there may be a "chop shop" at that location. Board member Yomes suggested that the person should call 9-1-1 to have HPD investigate.
4. Concerning the traffic light at Lawehana and Salt Lake Boulevard, Board member Larry Baird asked if it could be removed. Vice Chair Pepper mentioned that this issue could be reconsidered. Board member Yomes would follow up on the van at Maluna Street/Wanaka Street. Board member Baird would follow up on taking down the traffic light.

Social Services – Committee Chair Len Pepper mentioned that there was increased emphasis, both nationally and locally, on bird flu. Governor's representative Michelle Hill may give a report later. Board member Mark Taylor mentioned that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) issued an advisory to all banks to plan for a bird flu pandemic. Vice Chair Pepper mentioned that the Board has already discussed this issue and would help the community get ready, but hopes it never comes.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

Residents' Concerns- (7:51 p.m.)

1. Resident Howard Shima reported graffiti on the water tank at the Aliamanu Military Reservoir (according to Board of Water Supply (BWS) representative Thomas Strout). Board member Brazell would follow up with the military.
2. A resident mentioned that concerning the Salt Lake Boulevard Beautification project, there was a \$30,000 budget, partly for repainting the wall. Board member Godfrey had no information on spending the money. Chair Tanimoto explained that former Board member and resident Shima had championed this project and is working with the City to correct the problems. He thanked the resident for his comments, which the Board shared.
3. A resident thanked Board member Yomes for his follow up on the two vehicles and parking violations. Chair Tanimoto said that vehicles on Likini Street were towed.

Mayor Mufi Hannemann's representative- (7:56 p.m.) Dana Takahara-Dias distributed the Mayor's newsletter and reported the following:

1. She had instructions on how to drive around a roundabout.
2. She was available to walk the Salt Lake Beautification project.
3. Concerning the abandoned vehicle at Maluna and Wanaka Streets, the Motor Vehicle Control Inspector located the truck and its owner and informed him of the existing abandoned vehicle statutes. The truck was subsequently moved to private property. No other abandoned vehicles were located in the vicinity. Once abandoned vehicles are removed from the public street, and the owners notified, if they are not claimed, the vehicle is auctioned to the general public. This process takes an average of 4-6 weeks depending upon the occurrence of the monthly auction. If unsold, the contractor is responsible to dispose of them immediately.
4. We are conducting an investigation regarding Mr. Yomes' parking concerns in the vicinity of 4918 Likini Street. We will inform the Board of our findings by the July 2006 board meeting. Should you have any questions, please contact Alton Mitsuyuki at 523-4721.
5. In response to the questions about the March 31 wastewater spill at the Aliamanu Waste Water Pumping Station #1 and #2, Calcium hypochlorite or other approved disinfectant shall be spread over contaminated land area as required per Department of Health (DOH) protocol.

Questions, answers and comments followed.

1. Vice Chair Pepper also mentioned at the April meeting that part of the problem was people illegally discharging rainwater into the sewage system. Also, what was the status of upgrading the system and budgeting. He asked for follow up.

2. A resident mentioned a down street light on Bouganville Drive near Lawehana Street. He asked if it was U.S. Navy property. Vice Chair Pepper mentioned that it might be State land. Chair Tanimoto asked Governor's representative Hill to follow up. The resident also asked about road repair by the Forty-Niner restaurant on Kamehameha Highway in Aiea. Vice Chair Pepper mentioned it was contracted for repair to be done quite soon.
3. Vice Chair Pepper commended the City for re-stripping the area on Salt Lake Boulevard near Lawehana Street. They did a good job and it improved the safety for the area. The light over the lane that was restriped may be unnecessary and confusing.
4. A resident asked about the traffic island on Kahuapaani Street. It belonged to the State. Board member Yomes suggested calling the pothole hotline at 547-7777 to report any potholes.

Chair Tanimoto thanked the Mayor's representative Takahara-Dias.

PRESENTATIONS:

Update on Radford High School- (8:06 p.m.) Principal Robert Stevens reported that they had to overcome a lot of negative publicity. He has been at Radford for 30 years. They get Federal Impact Aid for children of military families. They have a Freshman Academy and Advanced Placement (AP) in biology and physics. Through a partnership with military, they have computer labs and their classrooms were renovated. Radford graduates become teachers, who are more compassionate. Their graduation speaker is always a Radford High School graduate. Students are asking for more rigor. Concerning the Radford High School renovation, they were "adopted" in 1995. Their \$100,000 worth of electronic network was "wired" by the U.S. Air Force. By 1996 they had television, telephone, six workstations and a \$1.2 million computer lab with two personal computers (PC) and two "Apples." They had 60 students sign up for AP Chemistry. For foreign languages they teach German, French, Spanish, Japanese and Latin.

Chair Tanimoto thanked Principal Stevens for his presentation.

Update on Moanalua High School- (8:23 p.m.) Principal Darrel Galera reported that they had their evaluation in April. In one month, they will get the results. They have many clubs with 90 service projects. They allow the City agencies to park at the high school, while doing road repair, etc. Tennis courts are being renovated, so they are out of use.

Question, answers and comments followed.

1. Resident Thomas Strout asked about the athletic department. Principal Galera mentioned they have 51 teams with 700 athletes.
2. Board member Mark Taylor mentioned the *Honolulu* magazine article, which rated the public schools. For three years in a row, Moanalua High School was rated among the top public schools. However, they are also highlighted in red for failing the "No Child Left Behind" law. Principal Galera replied that it is a complex law. If a school fails in only one area, then they fail. They did not pass the math test. The law also does not consider special needs students. The Department of Education (DOE) is moving away from standard report card, which is a major shift. Concerning the Performing Arts Center funding, Representative Glenn Wakai and Senator Norman Sakamoto were able to get \$4.7 million passed. Concerning school budgeting, Principal Galera always had flexibility. He looks forward to new partnerships.

Chair Tanimoto thanked Principal Galera for his presentation.

Declaration of covenants in deeds for Salt Lake homes- A resident said there may be an issue concerning covenants in the deeds which limit the size of dwellings and a second floor for dwellings in Salt Lake. There previously was a presentation before the Board concerning this matter. The Board took the position at the earlier meeting that the issue is a private matter, rather than a Neighborhood Board matter. Board member Yomes

mentioned the new "Ohana" zoning law. Board member Glanstein mentioned that many Aliamanu and Foster Village residents might not know about the various zoning laws. A resident reported in Foster Village there are twenty people living in one house as an extended family. They may be a nursing home and he was concerned about the zoning. Board member Glanstein was concerned that a neighbor should not encroach on the plain view of the back neighbor. The Board requested the Mayor's representative, Dana Takahara-Dias to get a "Zoning" person to come to the next Board meeting.

Implementation of an afternoon rush-hour contraflow from Center Drive to Aloha Stadium, which would send traffic onto Salt Lake Boulevard- Vice Chair Pepper suggested to "keep an eye on it." Chair Tanimoto and Board member Baird would follow up.

Community parking issues- Board member Yomes updated the parking situation in the Salt Lake area and would work with the City on this issue. Chair Tanimoto mentioned that this discussion would be continued next month.

Motion requesting the City to provide the following at the June board meeting: Board member Glanstein requested a unanimous consent to get the following information- (1) Detailed prices and schedule information for repair and/or replacement of the failing sections of the sprinkler system (along Salt Lake Boulevard) and (2) Prices and schedule information for replanting vegetation on Salt Lake Boulevard. Mayor's representative Takahara-Dias reported that three City departments, Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM) and Department of Design and Construction (DDC) have gotten together to solve the problems. DFM has contributed \$20,000.

(9:06 p.m.) Vice Chair Pepper suggested a 15-minute extension.

Vice Chair Pepper moved and Board member Taylor seconded that the Aliamanu/Salt Lake/Foster Village Neighborhood Board No. 18 invite the heads of the three City departments to come to the next meeting with a solution to the problems on Salt Lake Boulevard between Ala Liliko'i Street and Puuloa Road. The motion carried, 7-1-0. Board member Yomes voted "No."

Councilmember Romy Cachola- (9:11 p.m.) Dennis Galolo distributed Councilmember Cachola's newsletter and mentioned that the regular staff person, Hiroko Nakamura was on a well-deserved vacation.

Vice Chair Pepper again mentioned the Opticom system for the welfare and safety of area residents. Board member Yomes suggested that the HFD start speaking up. Vice Chair Pepper and the Board made a "strong request" for the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) to make the Opticom system fully operational.

There were no further questions.

Chair Tanimoto thanked Councilmember Cachola's representative Galolo.

Board member Glanstein requested to extend the meeting for another 15 minutes.

Representative Glen Wakai- Representative Wakai reported that he helped get funding for the Moanalua High School Performing Arts Center and \$300,000 for the Moanalua Gardens. Two of his bills died- the one that would prohibit teen smoking and the bill concerning leaving a child unattended in a vehicle.

Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project (HHCTCP)- (9:21 p.m.) Pat Lee announced that the cost figures would be out soon. He mentioned that the U.S. Navy has not changed its position of not supporting the Camp Catlin Drive alignment. Last month's motion was supposed to go to the Mayor.

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY (BWS)- (9:22 p.m.) Thomas Strout reported the following:

1. The Board of Water Supply is proposing rate increases at a public hearing on May 15 at the Board Conference Room at 2:00 p.m. He handed out a chart of the proposed rates.
2. Congratulations to the winners of the Board of Water Supply's water conservation week poster contest! Out of more than 2500 entries, the judges have chosen the 12 first- second- and third-place winners for

each grade level, as well as honorable mention winners. Kudos to Jenna Kobata of Maemae Elementary School for her honorable mention in grade 3-4 category! First, Second and Third place winners received \$100, \$75 and \$50 U.S. Savings bonds respectively, with the First place winners also earning a visit to the Nu'uuanu watershed for their class.

On April 25th, the BWS honored the talented artists at our monthly board meeting. In attendance were the students, parents and teachers, as well as the BWS board members. The winning entries will be displayed at Pearlridge Uptown May 8th to the 18th. We invite you to come and see the impressive artistic talent for yourself!

Over the next few weeks, we will be returning the entries to the students who sent in their poster ideas as well as a participation certificate.

3. There was one main break in the Salt Lake area.

There were no questions.

Chair Tanimoto thanked Strout for his report.

Board member Yomes suggested that the presentations start at 8:00 p.m. Tonight, two were at 8:00 p.m., but one was after 9:00 p.m. Chair Tanimoto would take this "under advisement."

ADJOURNMENT: Hearing no objections, Chair Tanimoto adjourned the meeting at 9:26 p.m.

Submitted by K. Russell Ho, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by Chair Grant Tanimoto